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CASE 33284/A  
**IAP5 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 FEB 2006**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF  
AUBERSON ET AL.  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2004/009225  
FILED: 17 AUGUST 2004  
U.S. APPLICATION NO: Not Yet Known  
35 USC §371 DATE: Herewith  
FOR: 3H-PHENOXAZINE DERIVATIVES SUITABLE AS NEAR-INFRARED  
IMAGING AGENTS, PREPARATION AND USE THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following preliminary amendments:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.

Appendix contains replacement Abstract.